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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/878,327	06/12/2001	Rui Zhou	839-1013	2117

7590 10/06/2004
NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.
1100 North Glebe Road, 8th Floor
Arlington, VA 22201

EXAMINER

EDELMAN, BRADLEY E

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2153

DATE MAILED: 10/06/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/878,327

Applicant(s)

ZHOU ET AL.

Examiner

Bradley Edelman

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12 June 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 12 June 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 11/6/01.
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

This Office action is a first action on the merits of this application. Claims 1-15 are presented for examination.

Claim Objections

Claim 1 is objected to because of the following informalities: on line 1 of the claim, the word "system" is unnecessarily repeated. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

1. Claims 1-4, 6-10, and 12-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Win et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,453,353, hereinafter "Win").

In considering claim 1, Win discloses a collaboration control system for managing use of a plurality of resources (Abstract), comprising:

A user information collection routine for collecting user account information for a user using the resources and creating an LDAP user account entry (col. 12, lines 32-40, "Registry Repository 110... contains data on Users, Resources, and Roles..."; col. 12,

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lines 41-48, "Registry Repository 110 is implemented a relational database [via, i.e.] LDAP"); and

A mirror routine for automatically generating mirror persons from the LDAP user account entry and maintaining the mirror persons within the resources to identify the user across the resources (col. 6, lines 44-65, wherein a cookie is generated from Registration Repository, the cookie contains the user's name and password, thereby constituting a "mirror person" and is sent to and stored at the resource).

In considering claim 2, Win further discloses that the user information comprises a user name and password (col. 6, line 3, "name and password").

In considering claim 3, Win further discloses that the resources comprise databases (col. 5, lines 19-20, "examples of resources include... a Web-enabled database").

In considering claim 4, Win discloses a profile management routine for updating the information in the user account entry (col. 15, line 53, "change password"; col. 17, lines 39-67, "Modifying Functional Groups, Roles, Resources, and Users").

In considering claim 6, Win discloses that the resources are Internet-accessible ("Web-enabled").

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Claims 7-10 describe a method for performing the same steps as respective claims 1-4 and are thus rejected for the same reasons.

Claim 12 describes a method for performing the same step as claim 6 and is thus rejected for the same reason.

Claims 13 and 14 describe a computer-readable medium for performing the same steps as respective claims 1 and 4 and are thus rejected for the same reasons.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 5, 11, and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Win, in view of what is well known in the art.

In considering claims 5, 11, and 15, although the system taught by Win discloses substantial features of the claimed invention, it does not disclose steps for sending an electronic mail message to the user, wherein the electronic mail message contains a user password. Nonetheless, Examiner takes official notice that such a feature in secure online systems is well known (i.e. it is well known for systems that provide authenticated access to information, such as e-mail systems, to include a feature of e-

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mailing the user's password to the user in case the user forgets his or her password).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to include such a feature in the system taught by Win, so that if a user forgets his or her password, he or she can find out what it is in order to access the user's account.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Bradley Edelman whose telephone number is 703-306-3041. The examiner can normally be reached from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Glen Burgess can be reached on 703-305-4792. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



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September 28, 2004